

CONFIDENTIAL



**REPORT *to the***  
**LOCAL LODGES**  
*of*  
**BUSINESS TRANSACTED AT**  
**BOARD *and* EXECUTIVE**  
**MEETINGS**

*of*  
**UNITED FARMERS OF CANADA**  
**SASKATCHEWAN SECTION**  
**LIMITED**

Saskatoon, July 25th to August 2nd, 1927

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**POOLS**

At the last Board meeting, the Research Department had been instructed to investigate the operation of the Livestock Pool and the Poultry and Egg Pool. At the meeting held in Saskatoon on July 25th, in addition to the Department's report, Mr. McKay, President of the Livestock Pool, and Mr. Graham, Secretary-Treasurer of the Poultry and Egg Pool, were present to give further information and answer questions.

Mr. McKay, representing the Livestock Pool, outlined the Pool's method of signing up one area at a time, and payments on straight sales up to the present time. He reported steady growth of the Pool and the purchase by the Pool of the entire equipment and facilities of the United Livestock Growers throughout Western Canada. Upon request, he went more fully into the Pool's method of organizing and conducting local shipping associations.

The Board passed the following resolution: "That we express our appreciation of the manner in which the Livestock Pool keeps the Board informed of its operations, and that this Board gives whole-hearted endorser-

tion to the Livestock Pool and requests the support of all our membership toward this and other efforts to thoroughly organize the agricultural industry on a co-operative basis."

Mr. Graham, Secretary-Treasurer of the Poultry and Egg Pool, gave the Board full information on the Poultry Pool's method of operation last year and this, both for poultry and eggs, and details of the Pool's arrangements with the Co-operative Creameries for distributing eggs in Saskatchewan. He stated that the Pool had no other connection with the Creameries, and handled all its own produce when shipped out of the Province. He frankly stated that the Pool's operations last year had not been satisfactory, based on the method of operation, which, while wholly co-operative, was impracticable because of the small shipments handled. Figures were given to the Board on handling costs, storage costs, etc., for the two years. Great reduction was shown in handling costs for this year over last. These figures were corroborated by the Research Department, which had access to the books of the Pool while conducting its investigation.

"That we express our appreciation of the information we have received from the Secretary of the Egg and Poultry Pool, and that this Board gives its whole-hearted endorsement of, and requests the support of all our membership of the Egg and Poultry Pool."—Resolution passed by the Board.

It was felt by the Board that the different Pools should have the opportunity of reporting to the Board of the Educational organization, and the following resolution was passed:

"That a representative from each of the Co-operative Organizations be asked to make a report of their activities to each meeting of the Board of Directors of the U.F.C."

The members of the Board were unanimously of the opinion that very close co-ordination was advisable between all the Co-operative Bodies and the Educational Organization as forming one great Co-operative Movement, and that some effort should be made to get representatives of these bodies together to discuss problems affecting the movement, possibilities of co-ordinating to cut out any unnecessary overhead by merging where possible, etc. It was decided by the Board that the Educational Organization should take the first step toward calling a conference of all the Co-operative Bodies and the Educational Organization and a resolution covering this was passed.

Mr. Stoneman outlined his work in connection with keeping in touch with the Grain Pools. At the request of the Pool Committee on Grading, the Executive were sending Mr. Stoneman to represent the Organization on the Committee, which was conducting further investigation into grading.

The Board passed a resolution stating that, in the event of the line elevators refusing to sign a handling agreement with the Wheat Pool, they pledged support to the Pool in meeting any eventualities which might arise.

#### **SALE AND TRANSFER OF MEMBERS' LANDS**

The question of establishing facilities at Central Office for looking after the sale and transfer of members' lands was turned over to the Executive to bring in report on same to the next Board meeting.

#### **SMALLER CONVENTIONS**

The Executive was instructed to draw up three plans for reducing the size of the Convention and to submit same to the Board and to the Local Lodges for consideration. The plans as drawn up by the Executive are as follows:

**Plan 1.**—First: There shall be two delegates from each Local Lodge to the Local Council. Each delegate shall carry a card indicating the number of members he or she represents. Each delegate shall therefore represent half the total membership of the Lodge.

**Second:** There shall be three delegates from each Local Council to the District Council, one of whom shall be a woman. Each of these delegates

shall carry a card representing one-third of the total membership represented by his or her Local Council.

Third: Each District Council shall appoint sixteen delegates, a fair proportion of whom shall be women. Care shall be taken that these 16 delegates shall represent all sections of the District. Each of these 16 delegates shall carry a card to the Central Convention, representing one-sixteenth of the membership or voting power of his District.

Fourth: The annual District Council meeting shall take the place of the District Convention, and must be held 60 days prior to the Annual Convention in order to allow candidates for Director, who will be nominated at the District Council, to be balloted on before the Annual Convention.

This annual District Council meeting will pass on all legislation which is to be brought before the Annual Convention.

**Plan 2.**—First: There shall be one delegate from each eight members or major portion thereof of a Local Lodge, who shall attend the District Conventions. Lodges shall see that there is a fair representation of women delegates.

Second: There shall be one delegate for each 100 members or major portion thereof in the District, elected by the District Convention to attend the Central Annual Convention.

**Plan 3.**—First: Each Local Lodge shall be entitled to elect one delegate for each eight members or major portion thereof, who shall attend the District Convention.

Second: The 16 District Conventions shall each elect four delegates to attend the Annual Convention, one delegate carrying a card representing one-fourth of the total voting power of his District.

In each plan, the District Convention will be supreme, and no new business shall be introduced at the Central Convention which has not been passed upon by the District Convention.

#### **DISTRICT MEETINGS**

After canvassing the situation, the Board decided to give permission to each District Director to hold the District meeting for this year where and when found suitable.

#### **DISTRICT COUNCILS**

The Executive, which met after the Board meeting, passed a resolution recommending that the officials of the District Council executive shall be an executive of five, consisting of a Chairman and a Secretary and three executive officers, all to be elected for a term of one year at an annual District Council meeting, care to be taken in the selecting of the executive that they are representatives of all portions of the District served by the District Council.

The relations between the District Director and the District Council to be adjusted by the Council and the Director.

The Board further recommended that District Councils meet quarterly and that the District Director shall deem it his duty to be present at these meetings.

#### **LEGAL DEPARTMENT**

The Executive recommended to the Board that the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, establish a legal bureau for service to members and for doing general work for the Organization in the way of preparing applications for amendments to legislation, etc. After discussing the matter, the Board adopted the recommendation of the Executive.

#### **FREIGHT RATES AND RAILWAYS**

The Secretary reported to the Board that Mr. McEwen, counsel for Saskatchewan before the Railway Commission on Freight Rates, stated that there was a possibility that the 2c. differential on rates on grain and

flour between north and south parts of the Province would be done away with.

Considering that reasonable freight rates are essential to the success of agriculture, and that the present high freight rates are based upon too high valuation of the assets of the Canadian National Railway, the Board passed a resolution requesting the Parliament of Canada to provide for a revaluation of the assets of the Canadian National Railways so that the rates may be based on a real rather than a fictitious value.

#### INVESTIGATIONS AUTHORIZED BY THE BOARD

The Board gave instructions to the Research and Legal Departments, working in conjunction to investigate the high interest rates and privileges enjoyed at present by Mortgage and Farm Machinery companies, particularly in the case of foreclosure where the land is sold for more than the amount against it; and following this investigation, that the Executive have power to take such action as might be deemed necessary toward securing a remedy for any abuses which are found to exist.

Board decided to make a further investigation of Fire Insurance.

Research and Legal Departments were instructed to go over provisions of Municipal Hail Act, with a view to proposing amendments which will improve the present method of operation and make the application of Municipal Hail province-wide.

Board instructed the Research Department to prepare a series of articles for *The Western Producer*, outlining the Municipal Hail plan.

Board authorized preparation of a series of articles to be published in *The Western Producer* based on investigations already completed, outlining the different systems of Life Insurance, how each operates, and their separate merits and demerits.

Decided to have material prepared by the Research Department, outlining the advantages to be secured under the present acts governing the erection of Municipal Hospitals and hiring of Municipal Doctors and Nurses; and the office instructed to send out a circular containing the above information and urging members to avail themselves of privileges they have under the act.

Endorsed the action of the Committee appointed to confer with the Trading Department and the Co-operative Stores in creating a truly Co-operative Buying Agency, and empowered Committee to continue conference and report progress to Board.

#### TARIFF AND TAXATION

Mr. Geo. Spence, M.P., attended a session of the meeting on request, to give information re Consumers' League of Canada. He outlined the organization of this body by some of the Western Federal Members, as arising from the feeling that there must be some organization to put the consumers' case before the Tariff Advisory Board and prevent manufacturing interests from securing undue advantages as a result of their being better organized and informed. The League was on a temporary basis, and was represented by a Committee of three. The Committee employed Mr. Deachman to do research work and prepare applications. Over sixty applications for reductions or adjustments in the Tariff had been made by the League during the past year. Mr. Darby had also been present in connection with these applications, but was employed solely for the Canadian Council of Agriculture and had nothing to do with the League. The U.F.C. were invited to take some action; but after considering the matter carefully, the Board decided, while recognizing fully the importance of anything touching Tariff or Taxation, to take no steps until the League was incorporated and the Organization was more fully informed of its construction and purpose.

In discussing Tariff and Taxation, it was pointed out by members

on the Board that the last two budgets featured reductions in the Income Tax, despite the fact that less than 11 per cent. of the people were affected by such reductions. Income Tax reduction was becoming a popular thing because it was featured by the press and people adopted the attitude that it was a good thing without realizing what was involved or analyzing its final effect. If reductions are made in Income Taxes, naturally other taxes which affect the greater proportion of the people will go up or remain as at present.

The Board passed the following resolution re Income Tax reduction, AND ASKED THAT THE LOCAL LODGES TAKE A DEFINITE STAND ON SAME AND NOTIFY CENTRAL OFFICE OF THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARD SUCH REDUCTIONS.

"Whereas Taxation should be levied as nearly as possible so that people are taxed in proportion to their ability to pay;

"And whereas the Income Tax is such a tax;

"And whereas the Tariff and Sales Tax are not fair taxes in that people are compelled to pay them in proportion to their purchases and needs;

"Therefore be it resolved that the Board of Directors of the U.F.C., S.S., is opposed to any further reductions in the Income Tax, since such reductions affect only those who can best afford to pay, and the great mass of the people secure no relief.

"And therefore we request the Government of Canada to adopt the principle of Tax reduction in the following order: 1. On the Tariff on the necessities of life and the instruments of production. 2. On the Sales Tax. 3. Lastly on the Income Tax."—*Carried.*

#### FEES

While the Board felt that it was unadvisable in view of past experience, to accept half-yearly fees, they agreed that some allowance should be made for a man to secure the benefit of Local Lodge meetings when joining toward the close of the year, without having to pay the Central fee. It was pointed out that anything the present Board might do, could only apply to the present year, and after discussion the suggestion of the Secretary was adopted and the following resolution passed:

"That the Board are of the opinion that from September 1st until the end of the year a member be accepted into the Organization upon signing a requisition or paying cash for the year 1928 and paying in cash to the Local Lodge the Local Lodge dues for the year 1927; and, further, that the Local Lodge determine what proportion of the Local fee is to be paid."

#### VILLETTE CASE

Mr. Coe, Director for District Fourteen, had been requested by the office to conduct an investigation of the Villette case, and gave his report on same to the Board. A resolution to publish a brief account of the action taken in this case was carried. The Board felt that part of the trouble was due to misunderstanding between members of the two Lodges concerned and the Conciliation Board was instructed to make every effort to get those interested together.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH

The Public Health Committee brought in a report recommending that a Conference be called to discuss ways and means of operating and conducting the proposed Free Consultative Clinic—said conference to be composed of representatives of the Provincial Health and Education Departments, the Medical Association, Nurses' Association, Fraternal Organizations, Labor Organizations, and the U.F.C. The report asked that material be prepared on Municipal Hospitals, Doctors and Nurses with probable costs of these services, and that Local Lodges be urged to take advantage of existing legislation. This report, with its recommendations, was adopted by the Board.

## INSURANCE

1. **Life Insurance.**—The Board considered the findings of the Committee on Insurance and the Research Department, and decided to have outlines of the different systems of Life Insurance, with costs, advantages and disadvantages of each system, prepared for publication in *The Western Producer* in order to acquaint members more fully with the subject.

2. **Hail Insurance.**—The Research Department reported to the Board the results of investigation into the operations of different Hail Insurance schemes. The Municipal Hail was the only really Co-operative Association operating, and its Municipal form enabled the Company to operate very economically. Figures were given showing the amounts returned to farmers over a period of years, as compared with premiums collected by both the Municipal Hail and the line companies. The Board heartily endorsed the principles of the Municipal Hail and recommend members to support same. At the same time, the Board decided that it would be necessary to further investigate the act under which the Company operates with a view to removing present disabilities and amending the act to make it provincial-wide in its application and to enable the Company to give even better service than at present.

3. **Fire Insurance.**—Board decided to further investigate Fire Insurance.

## IMMIGRATION

The Committee on Immigration recommended that the Board request the Government to call a conference of all bodies interested, to discuss the effects of the present system of Immigration and evolving a sane and more practical Immigration Policy. The Committee further recommended: 1. That the Government be asked to cease remunerating societies engaged in bringing out immigrants. 2. That transportation companies be held responsible for a stated time for immigrants brought out under their jurisdiction. 3. That organized agriculture be consulted annually previous to bringing in immigrants, as to conditions, etc., instead of "dumping" immigrants as at present. 4. That all agencies interested in bringing out immigrants, other than Governmental, be abolished.

The Board endorsed the recommendations of the Immigration Committee and passed a resolution to be presented at the suggested conference, stating the opinion that the function of Government is to carry out a policy that will make for equitable social conditions rather than an intensive immigration policy, and that such conditions would naturally look after immigrants.

(Suggested to be called into conference: Immigration Department, Transportation Companies, Organized Labor, Labor Commissioners from Western Provinces, Representatives from Western City Councils, Farm Organizations.)

## HOME ECONOMICS

The report of the Home Economics Committee recommended that the Board ask the Government to create a Home Economics Department in connection with the Department of Education or Agriculture. Such a Department should use radio in Extension Work for women, establish a central where correspondence courses in Home Economics would be given, send out competent and experienced demonstrators and Extension workers for rural work, deal with problems touching labor-saving devices, Co-operative Laundries, tariff on necessities, Co-operative Buying, electrifying of rural homes, etc., etc. Recommendations endorsed by Board. The President of the Women's Section reported that a conference would be held some time in August with the Departments of Agriculture and Education, to lay recommendations before them.

## PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN

The President of the Women's Section reported that the Provincial

Council of Women were anxious to co-operate with the organized farm women and have them affiliate with the P.C.W. The Provincial Council represents the organized women from the Local Councils in the different cities of the Province, together with other affiliated Women's Societies. The advantage to be gained from affiliation was in putting the farm woman's viewpoint before the city woman, and in the sympathy and friendship which could be strengthened between farm and city women. Her recommendation to place the question of affiliating with the P.C.W. before the Local Lodges was adopted.

### PROVINCIAL RURAL CREDITS

Following a recorded vote, a resolution on Rural Credits passed:

"Whereas it is necessary that interest rates on long-term Farm Loans be reduced at the earliest possible date;

"And whereas the Federal Government has enacted a Rural Credits Act to provide long-term Loans, which, to be effective, needs Provincial legislation;

"And whereas we believe that the Federal measure fails in several important particulars to meet the requirements of a satisfactory Rural Credits scheme;

"And whereas the Saskatchewan Farm Loans scheme could be extended to provide farmers with Loans at reasonable rates of interest;

"Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Directors of the U.F.C., S.S., request the Government of Saskatchewan to issue bonds up to three or four million dollars a year for the next few years, and turn over to the Farm Loan Board the sums so raised to loan on farm lands in Saskatchewan."

### JUNIOR WORK

The recommendations of the Committee on Junior Work were presented and adopted by the Board as follows:

1. That Junior Lodges may be formed at Local points when six or more members are secured.

2. That, insofar as possible, all by-laws and rules governing the senior Lodges, in respect to membership, be adhered to.

3. That members between the ages of 16 and 21 years of age pay a fee of \$1 a year, 25c. of which will go to Central Office; or become members of the senior Lodge by paying the regular fee.

4. While the Committee is in favor of a simple form of ritual and Lodge procedure, it is of the opinion that the password should be optional.

5. That a detailed program of activities, including athletics and sports of all kinds, but stressing educational work, be arranged by the Committee.

6. That we secure and keep at Head Office, materials and information to assist Clubs in carrying out their program.

7. That we take advantage of the kind offers of Mr. Rayner and Professor Gordon of the Extension Department of the University, to assist us in carrying on Junior work.

8. That as soon as possible a series of debates between members of 16 to 21 years of age be arranged throughout the Province, with a final debate to take place at the time of the Annual Convention.

9. We would further recommend that an arrangement be made with *The Western Producer* for organized Junior work on the Junior page.

The question of placing someone in charge of Junior work was left to the Executive, and also the question of providing a trophy for the Junior debate. At Executive meeting, held after Board meeting, it was decided to provide a trophy in the form of a shield to the winners of the Junior debating contest.

### INTEREST

Resolution was passed by the Board, asking an investigation by Re-

search Department into high interest rates and privileges enjoyed by Mortgage Companies.

#### **OFFICE**

After discussion, it was decided to re-organize office, placing the Secretary in charge of all Departments.

#### **LEGISLATION ASKED FOR**

The Legislative Committee recommended: 1. Opposing multiple Taxation of Estates under existing system of applying Succession Duties Acts of the various provinces. 2. Favoring appointment by the Government of an Official Guardian on a fixed annual salary. 3. Placing the Administration of Intestate and Small Estates under the charge of the District Court Judges, with simplification of forms. 4. Making full investigation of the effect of 1924 amendments to the Homestead Act on the rights of the widow. 5. Asking the Provincial Government to bring down legislation to implement the Old Age Pensions Act passed by the Federal Government.—RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY BOARD.

#### **CO-OPERATIVE BUYING**

During the Board meeting, the Directors received the report of the Committee appointed to confer with the managers of the Co-operative Stores and the Debenture Holders' Representatives. The Committee reported progress, and that all were agreed that the rights of the Debenture Holders should be protected. The conference held in Saskatoon on June 4th approved the idea of forming a Co-operative Wholesale. In the meantime, the Stores would do as much of their buying from the Trading Department as possible, and the Co-operative Stores were given representation on the Trading Board in an advisory capacity. The U.F.C. solicitor had been instructed to draw up a tentative act for the incorporation of the proposed C.W.S.

The Board endorsed the action of the Committee, and gave them authority to confer further. During the meeting, the Board conferred with the managers of the Co-operative Stores and with the Debenture Holders' Representatives.

Following the Board meeting, Mr. Thrasher, together with two representatives appointed by the Board, and Mr. Ketcheson, representing the Stores, conferred with Aaron Sapiro, who was in Saskatoon, on the question of forming a Co-operative Buying Agency.

#### **BOARD OF GRAIN COMMISSIONERS**

The Board of Grain Commissioners asked the U.F.C. for recommendations for representatives on the Grain Standards Board, Western Inspection Division.

The Board recommended J. H. Robson, Leney, and J. Wellbelove of Eston.

#### **RE PASSES FOR ATTENDANCE OF EXHIBITION STOCK**

The Executive passed a resolution asking Mr. Stoneman to appear before the Railway Commission when it met in Saskatoon, to recommend that one attendant accompanying stock, and at least two attendants for Exhibition Stock, be given passes.

#### **SACCO-VANZETTI**

The following resolution was passed by the Executive:

"It is the opinion of the Executive Board of the United Farmers of Canada, Saskatchewan Section, that as there is doubt as to the guilt of Sacco and Vanzetti, in the interests of Justice we would like to add our voice to the universal request that they be granted a re-trial."

This resolution was sent to Governor Fuller.